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Oregon

e Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
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Pacific Northwest Region
USDA•Forest Service

Vista House overlooking the Columbia River from Crown Point.

Oregon

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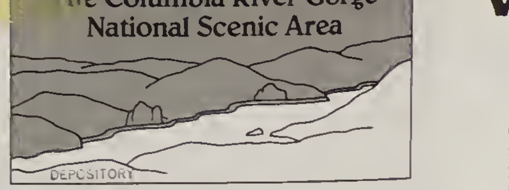

The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

Pacific Northwest Region
USDA•Forest Service

Vista House overlooking the Columbia River from Crown Point

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Welcome to the Columbia River Gorge,

a spectacular river canyon cutting through the volcanic rock of the Cascade Mountain Range. As the only sea-level river flowing through the Cascades, the Columbia is both a natural wonder and an important transportation corridor As home to 40,000 people, it contains industries, businesses, cities, farms and schools

For many years the Gorge has been the focus of public attention because of its unique natural features, its offering of a variety of opportunities for public recreation, and its critical contribution to the economy of the Pacific Northwest. Recognizing this interest, the 99th US Congress passed an act creating the 292,000-acre Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area The act was signed into law (public law 99-663) in November, 1986 by President Ronald Reagan.

The law created a partnership between the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the States of Washington and Oregon and six local counties to collectively manage the Gorge. Together they will create a management plan within the next few years that will protect and enhance scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Gorge while encouraging compatible economic growth and development.

Visitor Information Centers

Contact these offices for brochures and maps and information about hotels, motels, bed-and-breakfasts, restaurants, wineries, festivals, resorts, rafting, sailboarding, skiing and other recreational activities Check for seasonal closures

- Vista House, Crown Point State Park
  P O Box 204
  Corbett, OR 97019
  (503) 695-2240
- Sandy Chamber of Commerce
  P O Box 536
  Sandy, OR 97055
  (503) 668-4006
- Gresham Area Chamber of Commerce
  150 W Powell
  Gresham, OR 97030
  (503) 665-1131
- Multnomah Falls Information Center
  P O Box 367
  Troutdale, OR 97060
  (503) 695-2376
- Visitor Center
  U S Army Corps of Engineers
  Bonneville Lock and Dam
  Cascade Locks, OR 97014-0150
  (503) 374-8820
- Marine Park Visitor Center and Sternwheeler
  P O Box 307
  Cascade Locks, OR 97014
  (503) 374-8427
  or
  1200 N W Front Street, Suite 110
  Portland, OR 97209
  (503) 223-3928
- Hood River Chamber of Commerce and Information Center
  Port Marina Park
  Hood River, OR 97031
  (503) 386-2000
- The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
  404 West Second Street
  The Dalles, OR 97058
  (503) 296-2231
- The Dalles Convention and Vistor Center
  901 E 2nd Street
  The Dallas, OR 97058
  1-800-225-3385
- Camas-Washougal Chamber of Commerce
  P O Box 915
  422 N E Fourth Avenue
  Camas, WA 98607
  (206) 834-2472
- Skamania County Chamber of Commerce
  P O Box 1037
  Stevenson, WA 98648
  (509) 427-8911
- Mt Adams Chamber of Commerce
  P O Box 449
  White Salmon WA 98672
  (509) 493-3630
- Greater Goldendale Area Chamber of Commerce
  P O Box 524
  Goldendale, WA 98620
  (509) 773-3400
- Visitor Center at Maryhill State Park
  50 U S Highway 97
  Goldendale WA 98620
  (509) 773-4395
- Klickitat County Tourism Committee
  P O Box 1220
  Goldendale, WA 98620
- Audubon Society
  5151 N W Cornell Road
  Portland, OR 97210
  (503) 292-6855
- Native Plant Society of Oregon
  Portland Chapter
  20060 SE Highway 224
  Clackamas, OR 97015
- The Northwest Rivers Council
  4516 NE University Way
  Seattle, WA 98105
  (206) 547-7886
- The Nature Conservancy
  1205 Northwest 25th Avenue
  Portland, OR 97210
  (503) 228-9561

State Parks

Contact the offices listed here for information about camping, boating, fishing, picnicking, and hiking in these Oregon and Washington State Parks

Oregon State Parks

Lewis and Clark
Rooster Rock
Shepperd's Dell
John B Yeon
Viento
Koberg Beach
Heritage
Dabney
Crown Point
Benson
Lang
Wygant
Memaloose
Deschutes River
Portland Women's Forum
Guy W Talbot
Ainsworth
Starvation Creek
Seneca Fouts
Mayer

For more information: Department of Transportation
Parks and Recreation Division
525 Trade Street S E Suite 301
Salem OR 97310

Washington State Parks

Reed Island
Beacon Rock
Horsethief Lake
Maryhill

For more information: Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
7150 Cleanwater Lane, KY-11
Olympia, WA 98504
(206) 753-2027
Toll free within Washington 1-800-562-0990
Memorial Day to Labor Day

☐ Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

1 ***Cape Horn*** offers a panorama of the Columbia River as it cuts through the Cascade Mountain Range In 1907 a highway was built on the Washington side of the Gorge connecting Vancouver with Pasco, but these cliffs proved to be an obstacle until 1929 when the "Shed Bridge" was constructed around the rock walls. Today the Lewis and Clark State Highway (Highway 14) parallels the Columbia River for 85 scenic miles

2 ***Beacon Rock,*** a notable landmark among the pinnacles and promontories of the Gorge, is an 800-foot-high volcanic remnant Beacon Rock State Park provides a picnic area, a playground campsite and hiking trails to waterfalls, Mt Hamilton and the top of the rock You can view herons and other birdlife on nearby Pierce Island

3 ***Bonneville Lock and Dam*** combines the oldest and the newest Federal power plants on the Columbia River The original dam was built in 1937, the second powerhouse was built in 1981 The Washington visitor center displays generators and turbines The Oregon visitor center includes navigation information since the lock is located near the Oregon shore Both sides offer information about fish and history

4 ***The Bridge of the Gods*** draws its name from Native American legends Geologists say large landslides may have temporarily dammed the river here, probably giving rise to legends of a great stone arch built by the gods for Indians to use in crossing the mighty Columbia Built in 1926, the present bridge is the crossing for The Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, which runs from Mexico to Canada

5 ***The city of Stevenson*** has been the seat of Skamania County government since 1893 Early rivermen stopped here to load cord wood to power their steamships Although steamships no longer stop at Stevenson, you can catch a ride on the sternwheeler "Columbia Gorge" Other attractions include the Skamania County Historical Museum and Rock Creek Park

6 ***Carson*** is an entry point to the Gifford Pinchot National Forest where you can camp, fish, hunt, hike, cross-country ski, snowmobile or continue on through the Forest to Mount St Helens' viewpoints In town you can relax at the historic Carson Hot Mineral Springs Resort The Wind River meets the Columbia just east of Carson A boat launch and fishing opportunities are available.

7 Sailboarding is the main attraction in ***Home Valley.*** Other popular activities are camping, picnicking and swimming Looking east from Home Valley Park you see the Guardians of the Gorge, Wind Mountain in Washington and a sister volcano remnant, Shellrock Mountain, across the river in Oregon

8 ***Dog Mountain Trail*** (Forest Service Trail #147) heads up a series of switchbacks to the 2,900-foot summit of Dog Mountain, with vistas at several points. It's a popular trail for wildflower enthusiasts in the spring

9 ***Drano Lake,*** the estuary of the Little White Salmon River, is popular for boating and fishing Upstream, the Little White Salmon/Willard National Fish Hatchery has two facilities for raising Chinook and Coho salmon Visitors are welcome

10 ***The Broughton Lumber Company flume,*** a nine-mile water powered slide, was used to transport sawed lumber from the upper mill to the lower mill. No longer in use, it is a rare example of flumes used in early logging days. Across the highway is Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery and a sailboarding beach.

11 ***Bingen and White Salmon*** are neighboring towns with German-style buildings in their commercial business districts Along with wineries and fruit stands, visitors will find shops, restaurants, bed-and-breakfast accommodations and the Gorge Heritage Museum The towns are also good jumping-off points for excursions into the Gifford Pinchot National Forest The White Salmon River offers white water rafting, kayaking and fishing

12 ***Catherine Creek*** runs through the heart of a wildflower area, with a variety of plant habitats in and among lava terraces You can picnic, swim and fish at nearby Rowland (DuBois) Lake.

13 ***The Klickitat River*** flows into the Columbia at the town of Lyle Scenic loop drives from Lyle traverse the rugged Klickitat River canyon to Trout Lake and White Salmon or to Goldendale and back to the Columbia River at Maryhill The Klickitat River offers white water rafting, kayaking and fishing The National Scenic Area Act designated the lower portion of the Klickitat River as a National Recreation River and the lower portion of the ***White Salmon River*** as a National Scenic River The Act also directed the Forest Service to study the upper portions of both rivers for inclusion in the National Rivers System Rivers are added to the National River System to preserve their free-flowing condition, protect and maintain existing scenic and recreational values and make those values accessible to the public

Petroglyphs

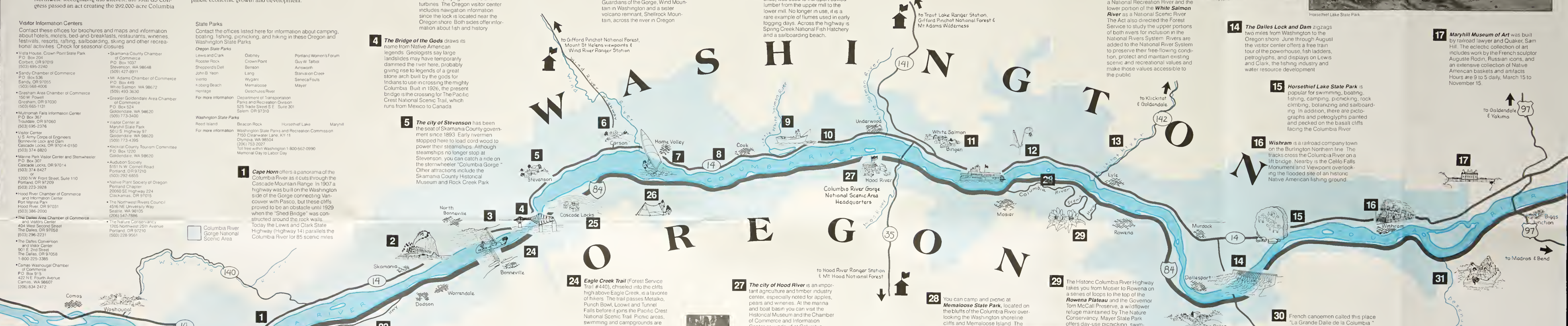
Horsethief Lake State Park

14 ***The Dalles Lock and Dam*** zigzags two miles from Washington to the Oregon shore June through August the visitor center offers a free train tour of the powerhouse, fish ladders, petroglyphs, and displays on Lewis and Clark, the fishing industry and water resource development

15 ***Horsethief Lake State Park*** is popular for swimming, boating, fishing, camping, picnicking, rock climbing, botanizing and sailboarding In addition, there are pictographs and petroglyphs painted and pecked on the basalt cliffs facing the Columbia River

16 ***Wishram*** is a railroad company town on the Burlington Northern line The tracks cross the Columbia River on a lift bridge. Nearby is the Celilo Falls Monument and Viewpoint overlooking the flooded site of an historic Native American fishing ground.

17 ***Maryhill Museum of Art*** was built by railroad lawyer and Quaker, Sam Hill. The eclectic collection of art includes work by the French sculptor Auguste Rodin, Russian icons, and an extensive collection of Native American baskets and artifacts Hours are 9 to 5 daily, March 15 to November 15.



WASHINGTON
OREGON
Gifford Pinchot National Forest Supervisor's Office
Vancouver
Camas
Washougal
Skamania
North Bonneville
Stevenson
to Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mount St Helens viewpoints & Wind River Ranger Station
Wind River
Carson
Home Valley
Cook
Little White Salmon River
Underwood
White Salmon River
to Trout Lake Ranger Station, Gifford Pinchot National Forest & Mt Adams Wilderness
White Salmon
Bingen
Klickitat River
to Klickitat & Goldendale
Lyle
Murdock
Wishram
to Goldendale & Yakima
Biggs Junction
to Madras & Bend
Deschutes River
Columbia River
Bonneville
Warrendale
Dodson
Cascade Locks
Hood River
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Headquarters
to Hood River Ranger Station & Mt Hood National Forest
Mosier
Rowena
Dallesport
The Dalles
to Bend
Portland
Troutdale
Corbett
Bridal Veil
Scenic River Hwy
Forest Service Pacific Northwest Regional Office
Gresham
Mt Hood National Forest Supervisor's Office
Columbia Gorge Ranger Station
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USDA Forest Service

For maps and information about National Forest campgrounds, hiking, horseback riding, cross-country ski and snowmobile trails, and other outdoor recreation opportunities contact these National Forest offices

- Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
  Wacoma Center
  902 Wasco Avenue
  Hood River OR 97031
  (503) 386-2333
- Columbia Gorge Ranger Station
  31520 S E Woodard Road
  Troutdale OR 97060
  (503) 695-2276
- Hood River Ranger Station
  6780 Highway 35
  Mt Hood-Parkdale OR 97041
  (503) 352-6002
- Mt Hood National Forest
  2955 N W Division Street
  Gresham OR 97030
  (503) 667-0511
- Gifford Pinchot National Forest
  6926 E Fourth Plain Blvd
  Vancouver WA 98661
  (206) 696-7500
- Wind River Ranger Station
  Carson WA 98610
  (509) 427-5171
- Mt Adams Ranger Station
  Trout Lake, WA 98650
  (509) 395-2501

Museums

- Cascade Locks Historical Museum
  Marine Park, #1 Portage Road
  P O Box 32
  Cascade Locks, OR 97014
  (503) 374-8535
- Hood River County Historical Museum
  Port Marina Park
  P O Box 781
  Hood River OR 97031
  (503) 386-4547
- Fort Dalles Historical Museum
  1856 Original Surgeon's Quarters
  16th and Garrison
  The Dalles OR 97058
  (503) 296-4547
- Fort Vancouver National Historical Site
  612 E Reserve Street
  Vancouver, WA 98661
  (206) 696 7655
- Skamania County Historical Museum
  Courthouse Annex
  Stevenson WA 98648
  (509) 427 5141 Ext 235
- Gorge Heritage Museum
  Town and Country Mall
  White Salmon, WA 98672
  (509) 493-3228
- Maryhill Museum of Art
  35 Maryhill Museum Drive
  Goldendale WA 98620
  (509) 773-3733

18 Begun in 1913, ***the Historic Columbia River Highway*** paved a way to the natural beauties of the Gorge It was praised for its own beauty as well – intricate stone work, arched bridges, viaducts, tunnels and lookout points Today you can drive a 22-mile section between Troutdale and Ainsworth State Park or nine miles between Mosier and The Dalles

19 ***Portland Women's Forum State Park*** is the first major viewpoint on the Historic Columbia River Highway and a famous Gorge photo point

20 ***Crown Point,*** a promontory 733 feet above the Columbia River, commands an exceptional 30-mile vista of the Gorge Construction was begun on ***Vista House*** in 1916, the year the Historic Columbia River Highway was dedicated at this site The State of Oregon maintains the building in its original style Volunteers operate a portion of the building as a visitor center and gift shop during the summer months

21 ***Latourell Falls*** is one of a series of waterfalls that spill over the Oregon cliffs. Travelling the narrow Historic Columbia River Highway you can see Shepperds Dell, Bridal Veil, Coopey, Mist, Wahkeena, Multnomah, Oneonta and Horsetail Falls

22 ***Multnomah Falls*** drops noisily from a height of 620 feet into a deep rock pool A steep, paved trail leads visitors to a platform above the falls At the base of the falls you can view displays, watch for coho salmon in the stream and visit the historic Multnomah Falls Lodge Larch Mountain Trail (Forest Service Trail #441) leads hikers to one of the highest accessible viewpoints of the Gorge at the summit of Larch Mountain

23 A cool, mossy, narrow canyon, ***Oneonta Gorge*** is a unique botanical area inhabited by plants that like moisture and shade Oneonta Trail (Forest Service Trail #424) follows this skinny gorge to the falls and beyond, joining other trails for loop hikes

24 ***Eagle Creek Trail*** (Forest Service Trail #440), chiseled into the cliffs high above Eagle Creek, is a favorite of hikers The trail passes Metalko, Punch Bowl, Loowit and Tunnel Falls before it joins the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail Picnic areas, swimming and campgrounds are available

25 The historic town of ***Cascade Locks*** drew its name from navigation locks built here to move ships past cascades in the river The cascades were covered with water pooled by the Bonneville Dam in 1937 and the locks have remain unused since At Marine Park is an Historical Museum Cascade Locks is the home port for the sternwheeler, "Columbia Gorge" Excursions are available mid-June through August

26 ***Wyeth Campground*** is located on a bench spreading between the shore of the Columbia and the cliffs of the Gorge This Forest Service campground offers sites for overnight tent and trailer camping, a picnic area and hiking trails

Multnomah Falls

27 ***The city of Hood River*** is an important agriculture and timber industry center, especially noted for apples, pears and wineries. At the marina and boat basin you can visit the Historical Museum and the Chamber of Commerce and Information Center or windsurf at Columbia Gorge Sailpark, a major sailboarding center The historical Columbia Gorge Hotel and a nearby waterfall are on the outskirts of town Hood River is also the site of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area headquarters Highway 35 takes you on a well-traveled loop drive through Hood River valley orchards and around Mt Hood to Portland

Lone Pine Settlement: Original Indian settlement houses and Shaker church with The Dalles Dam in background

"LEWIS AND CLARK ARRIVE COLUMBIA RIVER" – Bronze plaque at entrance to Portland Women's Forum State Park

28 You can camp and picnic at ***Memaloose State Park,*** located on the bluffs of the Columbia River overlooking the Washington shoreline cliffs and Memaloose Island The island was once a sacred Native American burial ground

29 The Historic Columbia River Highway takes you from Mosier to Rowena on a series of loops to the top of the ***Rowena Plateau*** and the Governor Tom McCall Preserve, a wildflower refuge maintained by The Nature Conservancy. Mayer State Park offers day-use picnicking, swimming, boating and birding

Dry masonry along Historic Columbia River Highway

Rowena Plateau of Governor Tom McCall Preserve overlooking Lyle

30 French canoemen called this place "La Grande Dalle de la Columbia" The same rough rapids were named "The Long Narrows" by Lewis and Clark Later ***The Dalles*** served as a staging area for the Oregon Trail Today The Dalles is an agricultural center surrounded by cherry orchards and wheat fields You can visit the Fort Dalles Historical Museum or windsurf at Riverfront Park To the west of The Dalles are the Chenowith Scablands, to the east are the Kaiser Ridge sand dunes

Balsamroot

31 At the ***Deschutes River State Recreation Area*** you can camp, picnic, boat and fish The Deschutes River, eastern boundary of The Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, is noted for trout and steelhead fishing and white water rafting A sign marks the still-visible wheel tracks of the Oregon Trail on the old highway upriver from the Park

Persons of any race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or with any handicapping condition are welcome to use and enjoy all facilities, programs, and services of the USDA. Discrimination in any form is strictly against agency policy, and should be reported to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

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